



Spring 2012

The Best of the Best from Billings Best Practices 2012

The two-day conference started Sunday evening at a Yellowstone Art Center reception poignantly remembering Teresa Veltkamp and honoring Kim King as the first recipient of the first Teresa Veltkamp Advocacy Award for Excellence in Indian Education for All.

(From Mandy Smoker Broaddus)

The nominees' accomplishments were impressive and remarkable. We would not be where we are in our state without the hard work and perseverance from all our nominees, and we thank them.

Kim King teaches 6th grade at Victor School and is the IEFA coordinator. She has been a proponent and champion at every turn, seeking out all available resources and opportunities. She shares her passion and commitment with the Victor staff, as demonstrated by these words in her nomination letters:



"Kim King truly deserves recognition for her work with IEFA in our school. She's shown herself to be a dynamic, up to date educator who is a leader, a team player, and a bright light who should be emulated. She has helped me to become better and more confident at what I do in the classroom, and helps her students to see things in a new way every day."

"In my 33 years in education, I have rarely seen a teacher who is so passionate about a subject...because of money from grants she has written, we have ordered multiple copies of books where lesson plans have been developed by OPI. Because of this, more classroom teachers are getting 'onboard' with Indian Education for All. Also through the grants, teachers have been able to take several field trips to various MT

reservations ... Not only do my coworkers and I learn a great deal about Montana American Indians, but the camaraderie that develops between us during these trips is immeasurable."

And, most importantly, Kim believes in what Indian Education for All can mean in the lives of all the children she serves.

The OPI Indian Education Division extends our heartfelt congratulations to Kim!

From Jennifer Stadum, Conference Coordinator...

"It was a great conference! I learned a tremendous amount!"

"There were so many great presenters; I wish some of the sessions had been offered twice!"

"The poetry reading with Lois Red Elk and Minerva Allen was amazing!"

These are just a few of the positive comments we received on the evaluations from the 6th Annual OPI Indian Education for All Best Practices Conference held in Billings this year. Educators from across the state were welcomed by the Hardin High School Drum and enthusiastically encouraged by opening keynote speaker Reno Charette before launching into two full days of best practices workshops.

This year the Crowne Plaza in Billings was bursting at the seams with nearly 260 registrants and 27 presentations. The energy was high and teachers were abuzz with collaborative ideas and the development of many relationships. Jennifer Flatlip, from the Crow Tribe and presenter at the 6th annual conference, commented that she is beginning to see a ripple from all of the past IEFA implementation as efforts pick up an exciting and contagious momentum.

Julie Cajune and Tammy Elser provided excellent modeling of best practices - melding tribal content with best practices teaching pedagogy - as they helped acquaint teachers with the new *Montana Tribal Histories Educators Resource Guide and Companion DVD* and *The Framework: A Practical Guide for Montana Teachers and Administrators Implementing Indian Education for All*. Superintendent of Public Instruction Denise Juneau commended the teachers on their enormous efforts in Indian education and Casey Olsen, a teacher from Columbus, impacted many with his thoughtful address about paying attention to surroundings and students to make a greater impact.

We hope you can join us for the 7th annual conference to be held February 2013!

MONTANA INDIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION (MIEA) CONFERENCE, APRIL 12-15, 2012

GranTree Inn, Bozeman, MT

The 31st Annual Montana Indian Education Conference will be held at the Best Western Plus Gran Tree Inn in Bozeman April 12-15. The theme this year is "Leadership through Action and Participation". The conference is open to everyone involved in Indian education, both Indian student achievement and Indian Education for All, from preschool to college. The conference begins with an opening reception Thursday evening at 6:00 pm and concludes with an awards banquet Saturday evening. Registration forms and information are available at www.mtiea.org.

2012-2013 Museum & School Collaborative Grant Opportunity to Integrate Indian Education for All



The Office of Public Instruction and the Montana Historical Society will provide support for collaborative efforts between a local museum and school district to address a two-fold purpose: exploring ways to become co-educators in topics of Montana American Indian culture and history in a museum setting and the public school classroom, and improving the presentation of American Indian history, artifacts and related documents in museum collections. The OPI will award up to six grants for amounts of \$7,000 - 10,000, with priority given to communities which have not participated in a prior IEFA museum – school grant. The first step is to define the potential collaboration, second step - complete the Letter of Intent form by April 23, and the third step is to develop and submit a complete grant proposal by June 22. Upon approval, grant funding begins July 1, 2012 - June 15, 2013.

[More Information and Letter of Intent Form](#)

Questions? Contact Justine Jam 444-7490 jjam@mt.gov

UPDATE - CURRENT OPI INDIAN EDUCATION FOR ALL K-12 GRANTS IN ACTION

Currently, there are three school districts implementing OPI Indian Education for All grants: White Sulphur Springs; Seeley Lake; and Frenchtown.

- White Sulphur Springs School District staff have attended professional development to utilize OPI's *The Framework* to organize and implement a successful strategy to implement IEFA. They also chose to learn more about the Flathead Reservation and the tribes who reside there. In early June, most of the staff will leave for the Flathead Reservation for workshops and experiences with the Bitterroot Salish, Kootenai and Pend O'reille cultures. Penny Kipp will be instrumental in helping them plan several cultural activities on the Flathead Reservation, as well as a hike to Schwartz Lake with Sergeant Pablo Espinoza.
- Seeley Lake School District has formed an IEFA teacher cohort to incorporate IEFA across the curriculum, utilizing *The Framework*, as well, and the OPI *Montana Tribal Histories: Educators Resource Guide and Companion DVD* curriculum. Both Jack Gladstone and Tim Ryan have been closely engaged with teachers and students to bring their rich cultural knowledge to the front of collaborating with staff to integrate culturally relevant instruction.
- In Frenchtown, their school district is focusing on the historical landmark of Council Grove, where the 1855 Treaty of Hellgate was signed. Through their grant, pictorial murals of this area will be installed in the Middle School with the artistic vision of Dwight Billedeau and the middle school art class. Several elementary teachers are also using Frenchtown history in their classroom and place-based education, as well as tying *The Gift of the Bitterroot*, and *Bull Trout's Gift*, along with other literature, to instruction.

These school grant teams are finding excellent and exciting opportunities to engage with community and tribal leaders, successfully integrating Indian Education for All.

RESOURCE SPOTLIGHT – New Unit Recently Sent to Schools

Text-based Inquiry Unit, Grades 5-8 for Louise Erdrich's *The Birchbark House*

The new language arts unit developed for middle grades - **Model Teaching Unit, Language Arts, Text-based Inquiry Unit, Grades 5-8 for Louise Erdrich's *The Birchbark House*** – was recently sent to all Montana schools with grades five through eight, to assist with implementing and supporting Indian Education for All.

This literature focus unit is designed around the award winning young adult novel, *The Birchbark House* by Louise Erdrich. It is intended to teach the Essential Understandings

about Montana Tribes with an emphasis on the Anishinabe (Chippewa or Ojibwa). Chippewa people found in Montana include the Little Shell (recognized by the State of Montana but not yet by the federal government) and the people of the Rocky Boy's Reservation (shared with the Cree). Their story is unique and this tribal group is very diverse - having migrated over time and been forced to transform elements of their traditional lifestyle in response to a dynamic and changing natural resource base. As a result, Chippewa—or as they call themselves Anishinabe peoples—adapted to life-ways that ranged from birchbark and wild rice gathering, to plains-style buffalo hunting cultures. The lessons in the unit make extensive use of archival photos (available in PowerPoint slide shows on the OPI Indian Education website <http://opi.mt.gov/Programs/IndianEd/curricsearch.html/> and also reprinted within the unit).

Through this unit, students are immersed in the life of a family as seen through the eyes of a seven year old girl, and follow that family throughout a year of triumph and tragedy. Set on an island in Lake Superior in the year 1847, this work of historical fiction exposes students to a culture in the midst of change. Teachers of this unit will master a variety of instructional techniques, with emphasis on authentic literacy lessons that directly model comprehension skills, as well as practice rich inferential reading and interpretation of a brilliantly written book.

Please visit the OPI Indian Education Web site at <http://www.opi.mt.gov/Programs/IndianEd/Index.html> for more resources.

Thank you for working to include both historic and contemporary portrayals of American Indian issues and perspectives into your curriculum.

Works In Progress – Look for them in school libraries in September

THE MONTANA INDIAN POETRY COLLECTION FOR THE HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL –

Developed by Dottie Susag in partnership with the OPI IE office and with a forward by Joseph R. McGeshick, this unprecedented resource will include suggested ways to incorporate the poems' cultural, geographical, historical and literary contexts through discussion questions, writing activities and other ideas for connections. While focused on the language arts area, many connections to other curricular areas are possible. The poems included in this resource reach out to Montana educators and their students with the invaluable representative tribal voices of poets Minerva Allen Sunk Pa (Assiniboine), Heather Cahoon (Pend d'Oreille), Victor Charlo (Salish), Jennifer Greene (Salish) Richard Littlebear (Northern Cheyenne), Joseph R. McGeshick (Chippewa/Assiniboine/Sioux), Henry Real Bird (Crow), Lois Red Elk (Dakota/Lakota), M.L. Smoker (Assiniboine), and James Welch (Blackfeet/Gros Ventre).

FORT PECK PLACE NAMES: BUILDING WORLDVIEWS USING TRADITIONAL CULTURES AND GOOGLE EARTH – Developed by Jeff W. Crews, Lisa M. Blank, Michael Munson, The Fort Peck PlaceNames Committee, and Joe McGeshick for the high school level, the focus of the PlaceNames Project began with the goal of building cross-cultural relationships between traditional Bitterroot Salish ~ Pend d'Oreille worldviews and science using Google Earth and tribal cultures. The Fort Peck PlaceNames Project continues this tradition of bi-cultural curriculum development. Students begin by exploring the traditional and current lands and worldviews of the Assiniboine and Sioux. Next, they examine the critical role that land-friendly bison play in tribal life and prairie ecosystems, research current conservation efforts to sustain echinacea plant communities, and develop an appreciation of the diversity within Fort Peck tribal communities. Finally, students examine their own worldviews and identify actions that will contribute to an ecologically sustainable future for the people, flora, and fauna of the Fort Peck Reservation.

Spring and Summer 2012 - IEFA Professional Development Opportunities

(Check the OPI – IEFA website regularly for updates – Hot Topics and Professional Development)

APRIL-MAY

CSPD – IEFA ONLINE BOOK CLUBS, MOODLE PLATFORM

APRIL 9 – MAY 25, 2012, *The Dance House* by Joseph Marshall. OPI Renewal. Facilitator, Sindie Spencer Kennedy

APRIL 9 – MAY 20, 2012, *Getting To Know Our Neighbor*. OPI Renewal. Facilitator, Sindie Spencer Kennedy.

Additional Information, see IEFA BOOK CLUBS

Click here to register on the **Montana Professional Development Portal**

CSPD – MONTANA TRIBAL HISTORIES WORKSHOPS, VARIOUS LOCATIONS

Participants will receive copies and integrate strategies and content from the MT OPI documents *The Framework: A Practical Guide for Montana Teachers and Administrators Implementing Indian Education for All* (Elser) and *Montana Tribal Histories: Educators Resource Guide and Companion DVD* (Cajune). Based on the MT Essential Understandings Regarding Montana Indians and multicultural education, lessons may include Tribal Creation Stories, Colonization, Treaties and Sovereignty, Reservations, Boarding Schools, Allotment and Homesteading, Indian Reorganization Act, and Relocation and Termination. 3 hr OPI Renewal. NO COST.

APRIL 11, 2012, Kalispell, 4:30 – 7:30 pm, Linderman Educ Cntr. Facilitator, Sandy Vashro

APRIL 17, 2012, Missoula, 4:30, Rattlesnake School, Facilitator, Suzette Archibald

MAY 2, 2012, Bitterroot, 4:30 – 7:30. Victor School. Rm. V. Facilitator, Chris Kuschel

Click here to register on the **Montana Professional Development Portal**

Need assistance with creating an account or registering? Contact Sindie Kennedy, sindiekennedy@wmcspd.org, 406-728-2400, Ext. 1031

APRIL 12-15, 2012, MONTANA INDIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE (MIEA), Grantree Inn, Bozeman, MT

The 31st Annual Montana Indian Education Conference will be held at the Best Western Plus Gran Tree Inn in Bozeman April 12-15. The theme this year is "Leadership through Action and Participation." The conference is open to everyone involved in Indian education, both Indian student achievement and Indian Education for All, from preschool to college. The conference begins with an opening reception Thursday evening at 6:00 pm, continues with an awards banquet Saturday evening, and concludes Sunday morning.

Registration forms and information are available at www.mtiea.org.

MAY 18-19, 2012, MONTANA SITE STEWARDSHIP TRAINING, 8:30 am – 5:00 pm. University of Montana Western, Dillon, MT

The Montana Site Stewardship program trains volunteers to protect archaeological and historical sites for the purposes of conservation, study, and interpretation. If you would like to become a Montana Site Steward, please consider attending. If you know of anyone who may be interested in becoming a Site Steward, please pass on this information. At the Dillon training we will spend the first day in the "classroom" at University of Montana Western learning about site stewardship. We have a great lineup of guest speakers including Leo Ariwite from the Shoshone-Bannock Tribe, and many archaeologists including Jason Strahl, Shannon Gilbert, and Ryan Powell. There will also be a flint knapping demonstration. The second day we will spend in the field at two archaeological sites (one being a fascinating rock art site) learning how to recognize archaeological sites and their components including artifacts, rock art, and historic mining structures. NO COST. Free lunch will be provided both days. **Registration deadline: May 11, 2011**

To register contact Crystal Alegria at calegria@montana.edu or visit our webpage at http://www.projectarchaeology.org/MT_Stewards.htm

MAY-JUNE

MAY 31 – JUNE 1, 2012, PVCC/PESA EASTERN MT INDIAN EDUCATION FOR ALL INSTITUTE, Dawson Community College, Glendive, MT

Presenters and topics include: Dr. Tammy Elser (*The Framework: A Practical Guide for Montana Teachers and Administrators Implementing Indian Education for All*); Joe McGeshick (IEFA from A-Z); Leo Bird and Jennifer Flatlip (*Montana Skies – Blackfeet and Crow Astronomy*); Dottie Susag (IEFA Book Talks and OPI Resources); and Dr. Michael Scarlett (The Federal Boarding School Era). No cost for the workshop, OPI Renewal available. Undergraduate credit from DCC (Dawson Community College) at \$27.38. One graduate credit from MSU-Billings at \$125.00.

TO REGISTER, email Kim Stanton (pvcc@midrivers.com) and provide name, school, grade level, cell or home phone and email. Participants are required to mail a \$25 deposit (check made out to PVCC) to Kim Stanton, 707 South Stacy, Miles City, MT 59301. The \$25 deposit will be refunded the first day of class.

Contact Kim Stanton, 406-853-1908/pvcc@midrivers.com

JUNE 4-22, 2012 MONTANA WRITING PROJECT INSTITUTE, Chinook High School, Chinook, MT 9:00am – 4:00 pm

Participants will: pursue targeted interests during a three-week intensive Summer Institute; explore current and foundational research of writing as a tool for thinking and learning; engage in inquiry through writing and reading; prepare and demonstrate presentations that could be shared with districts and departments; network and learn with teachers from across the Hi-Line; discover strategies for empowering students to be producers of knowledge, increasing literacy across the content areas and addressing the Montana Common Core shifts in literacy; learn and apply Indian Education for All strategies and philosophies in a local setting; earn 90 OPI renewal units –OR- 7 graduate credits through UM by paying a \$135.00 recording fee.

Hi-Line 2012 Information

To request an application, email donnamiller@itstriangle.com

Also see MWP Summer Institutes

JUNE 5-8, 2012, MSU-BILLINGS SUMMER INSTITUTE HISTORY MATTERS, Billings, MT

Julie Cajune, Executive Director of the Center for American Indian Policy and Applied Research Center at Salish Kootenai College, recently completed a three-

year project developing tribal history materials funded by the Montana State Legislature. Julie will share her findings in her Wednesday keynote presentation *History Matters* and in her session *Montana Tribal Histories and Governments*.

Contact Marsha Sampson, 406-657-2085/MSampson@msubillings.edu

Also SEE Summer at MSUB

JUNE 11-12, 2012, A GRAND UNION: CONECTING STUDENTS TO PLACE, Fort Benton, MT. (Note: Workshop includes partial IEFA focus.)

Explore Fort Benton, “the birthplace of Montana,” and learn how its buildings reflect its rich history. Discover how you can use historic places and community studies to engage your students and meet the new Common Core standards. Acquire new resources for researching the history and architecture of your own community and learn how—and why—other teachers have incorporated local history research into their classrooms.

Heavy hors d’oeuvres will be provided Monday evening; lunch will be provided on Tuesday. A limited number of travel scholarships are available. Ten OPI Renewal units. Cost – FREE. Limited to 40 participants.

Co-sponsored by the Montana Historical Society, the River and Plains Society, and the Golden Triangle Curriculum Cooperative

Schedule and registration

JUNE 11 – JULY 6, MONTANA WRITING PROJECT INSTITUTE, University of Montana, Missoula, MT, Four-week program.

The MWP Summer Institute (ENT 540) is a writing- and teaching-intensive, four-week program at the University of Montana-Missoula. The MWP invites teachers of all content areas, kindergarten through university levels, to participate in the Summer Institute. Generally, mornings are devoted to writing experiences for all participants, writing workshops and editing groups, presentations by visiting consultants, review of curriculum materials, and research interpretation for classroom implementation. In the afternoons, participants present workshops based on personal, successful teaching strategies, participate in “hot topics” discussions and book talks. Throughout the Summer Institute, participants have hands-on experience in writing across the curriculum and with the computer as a tool for writing and teaching writing. Throughout the academic year, MWP Teacher-Consultants conduct in-service activities that promote and improve the teaching of writing in their schools and districts. They also participate in follow-up activities such as developing curriculum guides, assessing writing skills of Montana students, attending programs and presenting sessions at professional meetings.

Also see MWP Summer Institutes.

Summer Institute Application 2012

JUNE 11–14, 2012, PROJECT ARCHEOLOGY INVESTIGATING A PLAINS TIPI, Museum of the Rockies, Bozeman, MT. Two graduate credits. Instructor, Crystal Alegria

Learn how the exciting field of archaeology can bring literacy, science, social studies, math, and scientific inquiry to your classroom. A full copy of the Project Archaeology materials is yours to take home.

Registration opens March. 26. See full course descriptions and registration information.

JUNE 18-19, 2012 INDIAN EDUCATION FOR ALL INSTITUTE Missoula, Holiday Inn
(More information to follow – Check OPI [Hot Topics and Professional Development](#))

Led by Julie Cajune and Tammy Elser, participants in the interactive workshop will experience tribal content blended with best practices teaching pedagogy using the *Montana Tribal Histories: Educators Resource Guide and Companion DVD* and *The Framework: A practical Guide for Montana Teachers and Administrators Implementing Indian Education for All*.

To register, please email Joan Franke, jfranke@mt.gov with the following information: NAME, SCHOOL, SUMMER ADDRESS; SUMMER EMAIL ADDRESS; PHONE #; POSITION AND GRADE LEVEL; AND ANY SPECIAL FOOD NEEDS.

Contact: Mike Jetty, mjetty@mt.gov/406-444-0720

JUNE 18-19, 2012 TREASURES FOR TEACHING THE TREASURE STATE: MONTANA HISTORY RESOURCES FOR ELEMENTARY CLASSROOMS, Helena, MT
(Note: Workshop includes some IEFA focus.)

Discover interactive lessons to introduce your students to Montana history. Learn how introducing grade school students to primary sources can excite them about history, teach them media literacy, hone their historical thinking skills, and help you meet the new Common Core standards. Discover other teachers' best lessons and share your experience to improve the Montana Historical Society's hands-on history footlockers. There will be a reception with heavy hors d'oeuvres Monday evening, and lunch will be provided both days. A limited number of travel scholarships are available. Fifteen OPI Renewal units. Limited to 30 participants. Cost – FREE. Sponsored by the Montana Historical Society.

Schedule and registration

JUNE 28-30, 2012, DAVID THOMPSON KALISPEL ENCAMPMENT, Rocky Point Ranch, Thompson Falls, 2012. OPI renewal units and Continuing Education credits

through MSU-Northern. Co-sponsored by David Thompson Bicentennial Partnership, the Office of Public Instruction and the Montana Historical Society.

From 1807-1811, David Thompson, a North West Co. employee, established contact with the Kalispel, Kootenai, and Salish tribes and built trading posts in present day British Columbia, Washington, Idaho, and Montana. The educator workshop and encampment in Thompson Falls will provide interactive opportunities for educators to learn traditional Kalispel skills over the course of two days. The opening evening event will include a tipi raising contest and campfire presentation by respected Kalispel elders and Jack Nisbet. Side by side with the Kalispel encampment will be a camp of fur trade living history instructors from Friends of Spokane House. The two "villages" will trade, communicate, and collaborate much the same as encampments during the fur trade era.

For more information on costs and registration information, email Deb Mitchell at dmitchell@mt.gov.

JULY

JULY 9-27, 2012, MONTANA WRITING PROJECT, SOUTHEAST MONTANA INVITATIONAL SUMMER INSTITUTE, Skyview High School, Billings, MT

The Montana Writing Project recognizes the need to educate Montana students about the contemporary and historical contributions of Indian peoples in this state. MWP is committed to the promise of reconciliation inherent in Indian Education for All and the mandate that IEFA be incorporated at all grade levels and in all subject areas. The 2012 Eastern Montana Summer Institute will be an intensive three week course blending Native cultures, place-based education and best literacy practices.

For information or an application, contact:

Marcia Beaumont, beaumontm@billingsschools.org, 406-281-5969

Or

Casey Olsen, cougarenglish@gmail.com, 406-290-9798

Also see [MWP Summer Institutes](#).

JULY 22-28, 2012, MONTANA WRITING PROJECT INSTITUTE, WORLDS APART BUT NOT STRANGERS - HOLOCAUST EDUCATION AND INDIAN EDUCATION FOR ALL Missoula, MT,

***** NOTE: APPLICATION DEADLINE APRIL 20, 2012**

One of five satellite seminars nationwide, sponsored by New York City's Memorial Library in New York City and the Montana Writing Project, *Worlds Apart But Not Strangers* will be held in Missoula, Montana from July 22-July 28, 2012. This institute is designed for individuals who currently teach or are interested in

teaching the Jewish Holocaust and/or Indian Education for All, and would like to discover ways to make connections between these topics. Relevant to teachers grades 4-12 as well as college and university faculty, the purpose of the course is to provide novice and experienced teachers with knowledge about and teaching strategies for both Holocaust Education and Indian Education for All, using literacy, and especially writing, as tools to drive inquiry. Offered at NO COST.

Additional information and Application - Worlds Apart But Not Strangers

JULY 26-27, 2012, DVDs, POETRY, AND WRITING STRATEGIES TO MEET

COMMON CORE STANDARDS, Hampton Inn, Great Falls, MT, 8:30 am – Noon and 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm Daily, Presenter – Dorothea M. Susag, Target Audience – Grades 5-12 Educators

Participants will view and review engaging DVDs, Poems in the new OPI Montana Indian Poetry Collection, and Picture Books, with strategies and activities that help teachers meet the requirements of the Common Core Standards and Indian Education for All. Participants will design their own units or lessons for using Native-authored poems, picture books, or DVDs. Resources will be available for review and loan during the workshop as well as the opportunity to make digital copies of bibliographies. This is low stress with take-back activities that can be implemented easily right away. OPI Renewal or graduate credit available.

Online Registration Information – See SUMMER INSTITUTE 2012